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Toronto, June 25th, 1910.

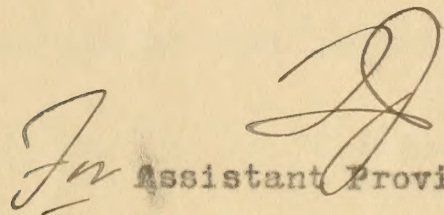
Sir,

I have the honour to enclose to you herewith
a Commission authorizing you to make inquiry into the causes
of destruction of dams near the Town of Napanee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

 Assistant Provincial Secretary.

William Rankin, Esq.,

Napanee,

Ont.

To His Honour the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council.

Sir,-

Your Commissioner to whom was entrusted the duty of inquiring into the cause, or causes, of the destruction, or partial destruction, of certain dams on the Napanee River, called the dams at the third, fourth, and fifth depot lakes, begs to report as follows:-

Pursuant to the power granted under the Statute I procured the attendance of all the interested persons, and such other witnesses as it was thought could give any information in this matter, at the most convenient ~~and~~ places for all to attend, and give evidence before me, the Napanee River Improvement Company being represented by Mr W. S. Herrington, Solicitor.

The Witnesses were usually advised by Counsel at the various sessions of the Commission.

It appears that the objections to the dams come from the owners of Lots portions of which are covered with water which is kept stored or conserved, for use for power purposes in connection with the various mills.

At the time of the purchase of the Lots the present owners, in every case, knew that there was water upon certain portions of the land, and

also that certain reservations with regard to the right to conserve water were to be a consideration.

The evidence of Frank Snider shows the difficulty encountered with regard to obtaining evidence. It was difficult to get any of the deeds produced. The extracts short forms of deeds, with the reservations, are attached to Frank Snider's evidence. They are all similar, and provide that where water could be raised high enough to cover any part of the Lot covered by the deed, the right to so raise the water is reserved.

The purchasers of the Lots now want the dams removed.

In two or three instances watchmen for the Company were threatened by anonymous letters sent through the Post . These communications were before me and an effort made to trace the writer. The communication marked "Exhibit No I." was, I believe, written by Merenus Cronk. Merenus Cronk said, before me, that he had been very active, in a legitimate way, in trying to get rid " Of the dirty stinking water, and to do this the dams should be removed." When giving evidence at Tichborne Cronk was asked to, and did, write a number of sentences which contained distinctive

letters and words from the threatening letter received by Napoleon, or Pole, Lario, the watchman at Fifth Lake Dam, a short time before that dam was destroyed, and a similarity in the writing was apparent. A number of witnesses wrote words and sentences, but in no case did the handwriting resemble that of the letters sent to Frank Snider or T. H. Leveck who had been employed as watchmen.

All the witnesses stated that no persons would have as much reason for desiring the removal of the dams as themselves, but they claimed to have no knowledge of the persons who committed the offences. They did not ask who did it, or try to find out, but some say that there were no strangers in or about the neighborhood. The evidence of the Moor family shows that they suffered more this season than formerly, and they attributed this fact to the destruction of Fifth Lake Dam. Merenus Cronk suffered loss also through the water from this Lake lying on his hay after it had been cut. These lands are below the dam.

The witness Alfred Knight has the best knowledge with regard to the original owners of the properties after the Crown Grants had been

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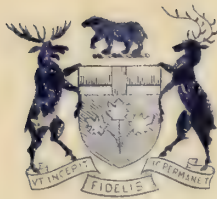
issued. B. S. O'Loughlin, as Secretary of the Napanee River Improvement Company, can speak more positively regarding later events. The evidence of both these gentlemen is herewith submitted together with all other evidence submitted before me .

I cannot from the evidence before me say that any one of the persons suspected actually committed the damage.

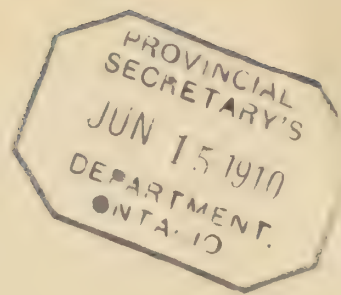
J. H. Rankin

Commissioner.

Napanee, 10th January, 1911.



ONTARIO
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE



Copy of an Order-in-Council approved by His Honour
the Lieutenant Governor, the 14th day of June, A.D. 1910.

Upon consideration of the report of the Honourable the
Attorney General, dated June 14th, 1910, the Committee of Council
advise that a Commission be issued under "The Public Enquiries Act"
appointing William Rankin of the Town of Napanee, in the ~~United~~
~~County~~ of Lennox and Addington, Esquire, a Commissioner to
investigate and report upon;

The causes of the destruction or partial destruction at various
times of the dam or dams on Third Lake, about thirty miles from
the said Town of Napanee, on Fourth Lake, about thirty five miles
from the said Town of Napanee, and on Fifth Lake, about forty
miles from the said Town of Napanee.

The Committee further advise that the said William Rankin
be paid at the rate of Ten dollars (\$10) per diem and out of pocket
disbursements while conducting this investigation.

Certified.

Thomas de la Prie
Clark, Executive Council.

Copy sent to Mr. Rankin
JUN 25 1910
[Signature]



ONTARIO
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

Copy of an Order-in-Council approved by His Honour
the Lieutenant Governor, the 14th day of June, A.D.1910

Upon consideration of the report of the Honourable the
Attorney General, dated June 14th, 1910, the Committee of
Council advise that a Commission be issued under "The Public
Enquiries Act" appointing William Rankin of the Town of Napanee
in the County of Lennox and Addington, Esquire, a Commissioner
to investigate and report upon.-

The causes of the destruction or partial destruction at
various times of the dam or dams on Third Lake, about
thirty miles from the said Town of Napanee, on Fourth
Lake about thirty five miles from the said Town of
Napanee, and on Fifth Lake, about forty miles from the
said Town of Napanee

The Committee further advise that the said William Rankin
be paid at the rate of Ten dollars (\$10) per diem and out of
pocket disbursements while conducting this investigation

Certified,

Clerk, Executive Council.



ONTARIO
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S DEPT.
RECEIVED.

JUN 28 1910

Copy of an Order-in-Council approved by His Honour
the Lieutenant Governor, the 14th day of June, 1910.

Upon consideration of the report of the Honourable the Attorney General, dated June 14th, 1910, the Committee of Council advise that a Commission be issued under "The Public Enquiries Act" appointing William Rankin of the Town of Napanee in the County of Lennox and Addington, Esquire, a Commissioner to investigate and report upon.--

The causes of the destruction or partial destruction at various times of the dam or dams on Third Lake, about thirty miles from the said Town of Napanee, on Fourth Lake about thirty five miles from the said Town of Napanee, and on Fifth Lake, about forty miles from the said Town of Napanee

The Committee further advise that the said William Rankin be paid at the rate of Ten dollars (\$10) per diem and out of pocket disbursements while conducting this investigation

Certified,

Howard A. Spry
Clerk, Executive Council.

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ONTARIO
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

RECEIVED
JUN 27 1960

Copy of an Order-in-Council, approved by the Hon.

the Minister of the Interior, the 1st day of June, 1960.

These amendments to the report of the Honourable the

Attorney General, dated June 1st, 1960, the number of

deputy judges that a Court shall be fixed under the

Provisions of the Act respecting the Courts of Justice

in the County of York and the City of Toronto, together with

to investigate and report.

The names of the members of the Judicial Commission of

various courts shall be fixed on June 1st, 1960. About

eighty nine judges shall be fixed on June 1st, 1960.

Also about the same time shall be fixed

judges, and on June 1st, 1960, about forty nine judges

shall be fixed.

The Executive Council further resolves that the said

be held at the date of the said (1960) Act shall and not at

such a date as shall be determined by the

[Handwritten signature]